REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

1. Objections to the specification:

    The disclosure is objected to due to informalities.

5   **Response:**

    Paragraphs [0008], [0014], [0020], [0027], [0029], and [0035] have all been amended to correct these informalities in the specification. Acceptance of the amended specification is respectfully requested.

10   2. Objections to the claims:

    Claim 1 is objected to due to informalities.

Response:

    Claims 1 and 3 have each been amended to correct these informalities.

15   Acceptance of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

3. Rejection of claims 1 and 3-7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b):

    Claims 1 and 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Han (US 2002/0013879).

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Response:

    Claim 1 has been amended to overcome these claim rejections. Claim 1 now contains limitations previously contained in claim 2. As a result, claims 2, 4, and 5 have each been cancelled.

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    Claim 1 now specifies the step of "determining if a look up table is stored in each zone of the nonvolatile memory, and if the zones of the

nonvolatile memory do not contain a corresponding look up table, storing a look up table of each zone in at least a spare block of the zone". This amendment is fully supported in the specification, such as paragraphs [0029] and [0030], and no new matter has been added

5   through this amendment.

The claimed invention provides a way for determining if each zone indicates if the zone contains a look up table. If the zones do not contain the look up tables, a look up table is created and stored in a

10   spare block of the zone.

On the other hand, Han does not teach determining if a look up table is stored in each zone of a nonvolatile memory. Thus, Han also does not teach storing a look up table of each zone in at least a spare block of the

15   zone.

Iida et al. (US 2002/0124130) teach in paragraph [0122] that the logical/physical address control table is always stored in a block in the last segment of a nonvolatile memory. Iida does not teach that each segment/zone of the

20   nonvolatile memory contains its own logical/physical address control table. Although Iida teaches that a bit of a management flag is used to indicate whether a block is used for storing the logical/physical address control table, Iida still does not teach the claimed limitation of "if the zones of the nonvolatile memory do not contain a corresponding look up table, storing a look up table

25   of each zone in at least a spare block of the zone".

In addition, the combination of Han and Iida do not render the

claimed invention obvious since neither reference teaches creating a look up table if none is present in a zone of the nonvolatile memory.

5   For these reasons, the applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over the cited prior art. Claims 3, 6, and 7 are dependent on claim 1, and should be allowed if claim 1 is allowed. Reconsideration of claims 1, 3, 6, and 7 is therefore respectfully requested.

4. Rejection of claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a):

10   Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Han (US 2002/0013879) in view of Iida et al. (US 2002/0124130).

Response:

Claim 2 has been cancelled, and is no longer in need of consideration.

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Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Sincerely yours,

Winston Hsu   Date: _____09/04/2006_____

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